We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing edi tor at 656-3155, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.
The editorial deadline for arti-

cles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publica-tions. Prior coordination is mandatory.
Articles must be text or Word

files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital high resolution, jpeg files with full captions and bylines.

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105 days fatal accident

Number represents fatal accidents as defined by Army Reg-ulation 385-10, which is inclu-sive of all active component U.S. Army units and personnel. Current as of 9/9/2009.

Preparedness is key to lessen uncertainty

II S ARMY COMBAT READINESS/ SAFETY CENTER

FORT RUCKER, Ala. - Many members of the Army family have often remarked that the only thing certain in their lives is

With this thought in mind, Soldiers, civilians and their family members must be ready for anything at a moment's notice.

This month, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center (USACRSC) joins forces with the Ready Army team to observe National Preparedness Month and encourage every member of the Army family to commit themselves to a constant state of readiness.

"Things like permanent changes of station, deployments and natural disasters force every Soldier, civilian and family member to be ready for anything at anytime," said Col. Scott Thompson, deputy commander, USACRSC. "I encourage every member of our Army family to take time during this national observance to ask yourself if you are truly ready for any-

National Preparedness Month is a sixyear-old observance held each September to encourage citizens to make preparedness a top priority in their lives.

"The time to take responsibility for our military families and communities is before a disaster strikes," said Sylvia Scully, assistant emergency plans officer, Directorate of Emergency Services, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii. "We can avoid the risks associated with disaster by making a kit, developing a family emergency plan and being informed of the possible disasters in our

This year, campaign organizers are ask-

ing Americans to look beyond a working fire alarm or extra food in the pantry to better understand what it truly means to be ready for anything.

"An Army family that is properly prepared for anything enhances the readiness of our force," Thompson said. "The right plan, the right kit and the right information all combine to increase the resilience of our "band of brothers and sisters" in the face of whatever challenges we might encounter."

Organizers have assembled a wealth of tools and tips to help people assemble emergency kits and be informed of threats unique to their areas. These tools and tips which feature lists of what to include in emergency kits and how to assemble a family emergency plan, can be found at www.ready.gov or www.ready.army.mil.

Ready Army Campaign posters and

at the annual celebration of the Boys & Girls Club Day for Kids at the Helemano School Age center, Saturday.

Take time to prepare now," Thompson said. "There are so many uncertainties in our lives today; don't let your safety or

your preparedness be counted among

In Hawaii, June through November is hurricane season, but the threat of the H1N1 flu coming back with a serious second wave in October is also a concern, said

For more information about preparing for and mitigating the risk of a variety of and off-duty activities, visit https://safety.army.mil.

(Editor's Note: Kyle Ford, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs, contributed local information to this release.)

> Why does the Hawaii Army Weekly publish

court-martial findings?

The Office of the Staff

Judge Advocate releases

the results of recent

courts-martial for publication to

inform the community of military

justice trends and to deter future

Reckless driving tarnishes Army values

Director, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Yesterday, I drove home on Kunia Road, following a line of cars down the narrow, two-lane road. Suddenly, a motorcyclist came speeding past me from behind, flying around four cars in a "No Passing" zone and barely

making it back into his lane to avoid a head-on collision with oncoming traf-It happened too

fast for me to see his license plate number, but what I did see were his ACUs (Army Com-



bat Uniform) and desert boots. He was wearing his safety equipment (helmet and reflective vest), he was clearly a Soldier, and his antics put a least six lives at risk, including his own.

He gave the Army a very bad name. Last week, while driving down Fort Weaver Road, a wide six-lane, divided highway, I was approaching an intersection in the middle lane as the traffic light turned to yellow. I slowed to stop, but the car next to me, in the outside lane, sped-up and drove through the yellow light.

A motorcyclist behind that car - again a Soldier in ACUs - barreled across the intersection, running the red light, just missing two pedestrians stepping off the curb to cross the street. A split second later, he could have hit and killed both of them.

Two weeks ago, four motorcyclists head-

ing up Kunia Road dodged and weaved in and around a column of cars on the narrow road. They weren't in uniform, but all four turned into Schofield's Lyman Gate.

Motorcycles are the number one killer of our Soldiers in Hawaii. In the past two years, we've sadly sustained seven motorcycle deaths and had 29 other motorcycle accidents with serious injuries. Our Army leadership contin-

ues to stress the importance of motorcycle safety, and the garrison has recently introduced the Army's first-ever "Train as you Ride" motorcycle safety course. But all the safety equipment and training can't compensate for careless and reckless motorcycle driving by our Sol-What kind of message

does this driving send to the civilian community? To all Soldiers who ride mo-

torcycles, please remember that you are visible symbols of our Army. Your presence in public represents the values that our Army stands for: leadership, duty, respect, selflessness, honesty, integrity, courage. Please remember that careless and reck-

less motorcycle riding tarnish those values. Remember that disregard for personal and public safety is not a value taught any where in the Army. Please remember that you belong to the

finest Army in the world, that you protect and defend this great nation, and that you are the face of the Army to your community. Please remember as you ride.



Spc. Ashley M. Armstrong | 94th Army Air & Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

Equipping riders with needed skills. Service members prepare to manuever a curve on a road course designed to build their confidence in turning techniques during the first U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii sponsored advanced motorcycle safety course at Wheeler Army Airfield, Aug. 18.

He has also set eternity in the

hearts of men; yet they cannot

fathom what God has done from

beginning to end" (Ecclesiastes

Many of us have heard these

words before, but we give lip

service to the idea that God has a

plan. We often get frustrated and

discouraged because things do not

go the way we would have them to, (Yes, as

I write, I am forced to realize that as I point

one finger out, I have three pointing back at

misconduct by Soldiers. **2** convicted of various offenses

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command publishes the results of the following recent courts-martial

A specialist from 65th Engineer Battalion (Rear), 130th Eng. Brigade (Rear), was found guilty of one charge of Article 85, desertion with the intent to avoid hazardous duty, and one charge of Article 87, missed movement, and was confined for six months, reduced to the grade of E-1, and forfeited \$933 pay per month for six

A staff sergeant from 58th Military Police (MP) Company, 728th MP Bn., 8th Sustainment Bde, (Provisional), pled guilty to two specifications of Article 86, being absent without leave, and was confined for 119 days, reduced to the grade of E-1, and discharged from the service with a bad conduct discharge.

In addition to forfeiture of pay (either adjudged or by operation of law), confinement and a punitive discharge, the Soldier will also have a federal conviction that the Soldier must report when filling out a job application.

A federal conviction strips the Soldier of many rights, such as the right to purchase and maintain firearms and the right to vote.

Getting it Straight:

n article in the Sept. 4 edition of the Hawaii Army Weekly, on B-500th MI Bae event supports, highlights women's equality," incorrectly identified a quote made by a member of a spouses' club. The quote was made by Kim Rankin, who is a member of the Hui O' Na Wahine at Schofield Barracks.

A time of change is inevitable, but be satisfied everything beautiful in its time

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.)

DAMON P. ONELLION North Community Family Life Chaplair

When I was a child on the mainland, Labor Day marked the end of summer. At first, the date fell just after the start of school (usually the same week). With time, school started earlier and earlier.

By the time I graduated high school there were almost three weeks between the start of school and Labor Day, but that was still often the last fling before we got serious about out studies. Now, here in Hawaii, school starts closer to the Fourth of July than Labor Day. Seems things change.

As I drove around on Wheeler Army Airfield, last week, I noticed the buses staging to take the members of the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade to the planes waiting to take them to Iraq. It seems like at least once every other month units leave or return from downrange. Seems like I hardly get to know some folks before it is time for us to part company again.

Things change.

When I was growing up, we had a saying: "The only constants in life are death and taxes." Of course, we all know how false that statement is.

The only thing constant about taxes is

that they will go up, unless of course it is just before an election. But there does seem to be another constant in our daily lives: things change.

If we focus on this change, life can become daunting and even unmanageable. Change is never comfortable and the more discomfort we encounter, the more we can be tempted to give into despair. But there is another option.

King Solomon wrote almost 3,000 years ago, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain. a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time

for peace" (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8). Solomon continued, "What does the worker gain from his toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on men. He has made



As we reflect on Labor Day, the rest of the quote is very applicable: "I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil - this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that men will revere him" (Ecclesiastes 3:12-14).

Looking back at the theme of last weekend, let us enjoy God's gift and "eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all (our) toil" (Ecclesiastes 3:13).

Soldiers and their families certainly do more than their share of toil.

What do you reflect upon on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks?



about how much things have changed since.

Trisha Kougioulis 2nd Bde., Asst. Property Manager Army Hawaii Soldier Housing



lost a relative at the World Trade Center. It definitely changed my

"I actually

Kareem Lamb 3rd Bde., Asst. Property Manager Army Hawaii Soldier Housing



"I hope they catch that one no good guy who planned it.'

Ann O'Leary RCI Project Manager/Housing



"I think of the fact that my hus-band was in the city that day, and if he had gotten hurt, we might never have met."

Kristy Osborn Personal Trainer, Schofield Barracks Health



firefighter, I think of all the people who lost their lives."

"As a retired

Randy Otani Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness